TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 9, 2001 LR 1

the English language, "shall be used in the public schools", and then it deletes the language with regard to the use of the parochial and language in private schools. that...that particular objective. The ambiguity that exists in the language itself, in my mind and I think it could exist in many minds, is that the language in the proposed constitutional amendment that says that the English language shall be used in the public schools doesn't say whether it should be used sometimes, should be used half the time, or it should always be used in teaching the courses that are taught in our public schools. And the floor debate on that particular subject did nothing at to clear up the confusion as to what the Legislature intended. "The public schools The language of my amendment says, teach all classes in the English language except language classes", and it says that supplementary education may be taught a person's native tongue. That language, I encapsulates one idea of what is intended or what was intended by the language that is actually in the bill, and if that is the interpretation that is intended and the meaning of the language in the bill, then I think we're putting forth clearly to the people the same proposal, in essence, that we put to them in the And I think that that proposal, rightly first instance. understood, would be approved by the people, but I do not think we should put forward to them something ambiguous, suspecting that they would not want to pass it, that goes beyond the simple objective of eliminating the parochial schools and the private schools in accordance with the constitutional directive from the purvey of the constitutional language. So I want to ask Senator Stuhr clearly about the intention of the language in the bill. This is her bill. The language was originally committee amendment language, but from this point on it is her language in her bill, and so I want to direct a question to her with regard to intent, if I may, Senator Stuhr.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Stuhr, would you respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: And then I would like to...

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...leave the discussion open to the floor in